

Clearing the Air

When it's cold outside, you have to button up your Paladin tight to stay warm. But that can put you at risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Carbon monoxide comes from the exhaust of personnel heaters, the engine, and from firing the main gun. If you don't vent the vapors, the carbon monoxide will increase until the levels become deadly.

Your best protection is awareness and ventilation. Follow these basic tips to ensure proper ventilation:

- Do your PMCS on time. That's the only way to make sure ventilation systems and blowers are working properly.

- Never operate the personnel heater in an enclosed area unless it is adequately vented.

- Do not idle the engine for long periods unless you're sure the personnel compartment is ventilated.

- Do not drive your Paladin with the inspection plates, cover plates or engine compartment doors removed unless it's necessary for maintenance.

- Be alert at all times for the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning: headaches, dizziness, loss of muscular control, and drowsiness. If you experience these symptoms, get out of the vehicle, stay warm and avoid physical exertion while waiting for medical attention.

